

REMARKS

A. The Section 102 Rejections

Claims 1-17 were once again rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) based on U.S. Patent Application No. 2005/0169222 to Ayyagari et al (“Ayyagari”). Applicants disagree and traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Each of the claims includes the feature of adjusting the slot-to-user ratios of access points until the ratios substantially equal a maximum, lower bound of all of the slot-to-user ratios.

In comparison, Ayyagari does not disclose or suggest such an adjustment step.

The Examiner refers the Applicants to paragraphs [0019] and [0066] of Ayyagari as allegedly disclosing this feature. However, these excerpts do not disclose (or suggest) such an adjustment step.

For example, paragraph [0019] discusses the exchange of messages between QoS Controllers (QoSC) to request a release of bandwidth while paragraph [0066] discusses “making sure that the maximum size of [a] Beacon Region has not been reached”. Neither paragraph discloses or suggests the claimed adjustment step. More specifically, there is no discussion of maximizing a lower bound of a slot-to-user ratio as a result of the QoSCs exchanging messages. Further, whether or not a maximum Beacon Region is reached is unrelated to a maximum, lower bound of a slot-to user ratio.

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1-4, 6-10 and 12-16.

B. Entry of Amendment After Final

Entry of this Amendment After Final (“AAF”) is solicited because the AAF: (a) places the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) does not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration; (c) does not present any additional claims without canceling the corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (d) places the application in better form for appeal, if an appeal is necessary.

Should there be any other outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John E. Curtin at the telephone number below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3777 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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